

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT:

This report pertains to an investigation of the identification of the burial location of a member of the Commonwealth Forces, during the Great War 1914-1921.

SUBMITTED TO:

CWGC Commemorations Section
Commonwealth War Graves Commission
2 Marlow Road
Maidenhead, Berkshire
SL6 7DX United Kingdom
Email: commemorations@cwgc.org

Report Date: 20 April 2017

Reason for Submission: ("X" means purpose of the report)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Confirmed Identity	x	Burial Location Identified	x
Most Probable Identity		Grave Stone Correction	
Questionable Identity		Grave Records Correction	
Incorrect Identity		Request for CWGC Details	
Other		Other	

Supporting Documents: (# refers to attachment number; "I" information provided)

Casualty Identification:		Burial Information:	
Aylmore, Alick Guyer Aylmer	i	Assevillers New British	link
1-15 th Bn. London Regiment	i	Somme, France	i
2 nd Lieutenant	i	Plot 9 Row D Grave 6	i
Death: 23 March 1918	link	Burial: 12 December 1920	i
Graves Registration Report	1	War Diary Extract(s)	7
Concentration of Grave	2	Other 2 nd Lieutenants MIA	8
Exhumation Report		Other Casualties Buried	9
Headstone Register	3	Grave Stone Inscription	
Area Map(s)	4	Memorial Inscription/Photo	
Trench Map(s)	5	Reporting and Review	10
Possible Candidates List	6	Other	

Summary of Findings:

The Graves Registration Report form for Plot 9 Row D Grave 6 at the Assevillers New British Cemetery lists an Unknown 2/Lt Civil Service Rifles, known formally as "1/15th (County of London) Battalion (Prince of Wales's Own Civil Service Rifles)".

A review of all the evidence clearly shows that 2nd Lieutenant Alick Aylmore was the only candidate that was at this location and has no known grave. He was killed in action on 23 March 1918 on the left of the Mens-Fins Road, southwest of Bapaume in the Somme area of France.

Details of Findings:

The findings are conclusive that the remains in Plot 9 Row D Grave 6 are those of 2nd Lieutenant Alick Guyer Aylmer Aylmore of the 1/15th (County of London) Battalion (Prince of Wales's Own Civil Service Rifles). He is the ONLY 2nd Lieutenant of the Battalion that was in this location and has an UNKNOWN GRAVE, at any time during the Great War.

The findings are based on the following:

1. The *Grave Registration Report Form* (GRRF) lists an Unknown British Officer, 2/Lt. of the "Civil Service Rfls", buried in Plot 9 Row D Grave 6 (Attachment #1). We know that the "Civil Service Rfls" (*Rifles*) were the 1/15th (County of London) Battalion (Prince of Wales's Own Civil Service Rifles). The cemetery holds a number of other men of the same battalion. The names and dates of the known men provide strong evidence that all these men were the result of action in the area in March 1918 during the German Advance known as "[Operation Michael](#)".
2. The *Concentration of Graves (Exhumations and Reburials) Burial Return* (COG-BR) shows that the remains of the Unknown 2nd Lieutenant were found in amongst a number of other men of the unit, plus others killed in the same location in March 1918 (Attachment #2). The trench map coordinates for the remains were given as **57c.V.6.b.3.6**. That location tells us the remains were found north of Fins, France.
3. The *CWGC Headstone Register* initially recorded "A 2nd Lieutenant of the Great War P.W.O. Civil Service Rifles" (Attachment #3). This was later changed to "A Soldier, Unknown 2nd Lieutenant, P.W.O Civil Service Rifles". There was no change in the status of the Officer as an unknown.
4. The Civil Service Rifles were in the precise area where the remains were found in March of 1918. The general area is shown on a map extract ([Bapaume 57c](#)) from the Lloyd Reeds Map Collection of McMaster University (Attachment #4). The area is to the southeast of Bapaume, France in the Somme sector.
5. A detailed trench map of the location of the remains show that they are to the west (left) of the Mens-Fin Road, exactly where the Civil Service Rifles were in action on 23 March 1918, when 2nd Lieutenant Aylmore was killed in action (Attachment #5). The trench map coordinates are **57c.V.6.b.3.6**.
6. The casualty records of the CWGC were searched for all 2nd Lieutenants of the 1/15th Civil Service Rifles who were killed in the Great War of 1914-1921 and have no known grave (Attachment #6). The list shows there were ten (10) 2nd Lieutenants, each of which can be tied to a specific battle and location based on the date of their death. Research into the whereabouts of each of the missing 2nd Lieutenants revealed that only 2nd Lieutenant [Aylmore](#) was in the area where the remains were found at any time during the Great War. In summary:

- a. On 19 September 1916, 2nd Lieutenant [Ware](#) was killed in action near Drop Alley, in the High Wood Area (Attachment #6a). This places the casualty to the southeast of Le Sars (Map Coordinates **57c.M.29**). Although in the Somme Sector of France, this is considerable distance (18,000 yards ~ 10 miles) from where the remains were located. As such, 2nd Lt. Ware is excluded as a candidate for the remains located in Sector **57c.V.6**, the area north of Fins.
 - b. In May 1917 when the Arras Offensive was underway in France, the 1/15th Civil Service Rifles were at Swan Chateau, in the Dickebusch area of Belgium, to the southwest of Ypres (Map Coordinates **28.H.19.c**). The CWGC web site implies that 2nd Lieutenants [Smith](#), [Clarke](#) and [Jamieson](#) were still serving with the 1/15th at that time and that only 2nd Lieutenant [Coldicott](#) was attached to the “2nd/6th Bn. London Regiment (City of London Rifles)”. The British War Diaries clearly show that Clarke and Jamieson were also attached to the “2/6th (City of London) Battalion (Rifles)”, who were in action near Bihucourt (Attachment #6b). Smith was attached to the “2/2nd (City of London) Battalion (Royal Fusiliers)”, in the same area. This location is to the northwest of Bapaume in the Somme Sector (Map Reference **57c.G.17**). This accounts for the whereabouts of these four (4) 2nd Lieutenants. It is unknown why their names are on the Arras Memorial and not the Thiepval Memorial, as they died in the Somme Sector prior to 20 March 1918.
 - c. On 30 November 1917 the battalion was in the area of Bourlon Wood (Map Coordinates **57c.E.12 to 57c.F.14**), fighting the German counter attacks, which accounts for 2nd Lieutenants [Marchant](#) and [Tatum](#) on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval. The CWGC reports that “*the CAMBRAI MEMORIAL commemorates more than 7,000 servicemen of the United Kingdom and South Africa who died in the Battle of Cambrai in November and December 1917 and whose graves are not known*”. Unfortunately we have not been able to recover a war diary that covers the November 1917 period. We have included instead the historical reference to the presence of the 47th (London) Division in the battle, far away from where the remains were located (Attachment #6c).
 - d. In August and September 1918, the battalion was considerable distance to the southwest of the area where the remains were found. On 17 August 1918 2nd Lieutenant [Hughes](#) was KIA near Mametz (Map Coordinates **62d.K.12**). A few weeks later, 2nd Lieutenant [Garrett](#) was KIA on 2 September 1918 slightly further west in the area near Peronne (Map Coordinates **62.C.3**). The war diary references for these two occasions are appended (Attachment #6d).
7. The war diary of March 1918 for the 1/15th (City of London) Battalion (Prince of Wales’s Own Civil Service Rifles) confirms that the battalion was in the location where the remains of the Unknown 2nd Lieutenant were found on March 23, 1918 (Attachment #7).

Missing at that time and later confirmed killed in action were [Lieutenant Broad](#) and [2nd Lieutenant Aylmore](#). We confirmed via the London Gazette ([February 1st 1918, page 1633](#)) that Lieutenant Broad was not recently appointed 1st Lieutenant, as he ceased being a 2nd Lieutenant on 12 December 1917. Thus Aylmore is the only 2nd Lieutenant candidate in the specific area where the remains were found (Map Coordinates **57c.V.6**).

8. There were two (2) other 2nd Lieutenants missing on 23 March 1918 along with 2nd Lieutenant Aylmore. The CWGC web site shows that [2nd Lieutenant Herbert Matheson](#) of the “1/13th (County of London) Battalion (Kensington)” was attached to the 1/15th at the time of his death. He is buried in Plot 3 Row D Grave 2 at the [Le Cateau Military Cemetery](#) (Attachment #8a).

Also missing on 23 March 1918 was 2nd Lieutenant Fred Arthur Bright, who although slightly wounded at the time, was not killed in action. The records of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) confirm that he was taken prisoner on 23 March 1918 (Attachment #8b). On 29 May 1918 it was confirmed that he was at Hanover and was “doing well”.

9. The research material shows that there were ten (10) other men of the Civil Service Rifles that were killed in action at the same location, at the same time and have known graves in the Assevillers New British Cemetery (Attachment #9). Three (3) of those men are buried in the same plot and row as the Unknown 2nd Lieutenant.

Action Required:

The “Investigative Report” has been prepared in accordance with the procedures and criteria set out by the CWGC, should they wish to make any changes to the commemoration details (Attachment #9).

It is our contention that the evidence is overwhelming and that this is the grave of 2nd Lieutenant Alick Guyer Aylmer Aylmore. Quite simply, there are no other qualified candidates.

ATTACHMENT #1

Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Graves Registration Report Form.

<http://archive.cloud.cwgc.org/archive/doc/doc1966670.JPG>

N: 5 Area I.W.G.C.
 Serial No: 18.
 23-11-22.
 Commune: - ASSEVILLERS
 REPORT No. 1
 SCHEDULE No 440
 Army Form-W. 3372.
 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT
 GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.
 PLACE OF BURIAL ASSEVILLERS NEW BRITISH CEMETERY.
 Map Reference 62c. N. 14. a. 9. 7.
 The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
Plot 9. Row "D".						
15th London Regt	535213	PIL-KINGTON	Pte O.F.	22-3-18	Rd/25887	1/
15th London Regt Rfls	535213	BELLINGTON	SOLDIER Pte. P.J.	23-3-18	Guid E near	2/
R.E. Terr.	535213	CASSY	SOLDIER W.E.	21-3-18	thp E (Spot)	3/
R.E.	535213	UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER	Sp. P.	21-3-18	(dv E - do)	4/
R.E. Terr.	536040	WENTWORTH	W.J.E.	23-3-18	Rd/51456	5/
Civil Service Rfls	552588	UNKNOWN BRITISH OFFICER	2/Lt.		E	6/
R.E.	552588	IVEY	W.W.		E	7/
		UNKNOWN BRITISH OFFICER			E	8/
15th London Regt	53008	UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER			E	9/
Civil Ser. Rifles	53008	BELLINGHAM	Cpl F.S.	22-3-18	E	10/ GMB

Cards made "Elliott", "Cobby" & "Wentworth" 15.1.25

ENTERED 30/23
 SLIP CHECKED 26.9.23

(6 31 5) W3160-P2723 100,000 9/19 HWV(P1024) Forms/W3372/3

Regimental History OF the "Civil Service Rifles" from the [Long, Long Trail](#):

August 1914 : at Somerset House. Part of 4th London Brigade, 2nd London Division. Moved on mobilisation to Bedmond, and then in November to billets at Watford.

18 March 1915: landed at Le Havre.

11 May 1915: formation became 140th Brigade in 47th (2nd London) Division.

ATTACHMENT #2

Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Concentration of Graves (Exhumations and Reburials) Burial Return. <http://archive.cloud.cwgc.org/archive/doc/doc1966848.JPG>

**CONCENTRATION OF GRAVES (Exhumation and Reburials),
BURIAL RETURN.**

D.A.D. GRAVE
NO. 3 D.S. 11/12/21
Cross erected 12.12.20.

Name of Cemetery of Reburial ASSEVILLERS NEW ENGLISH CEMETERY. 52c.N.14.s.20.70.

Plot	Row	Grave	Map Reference where body found	Was cross on grave?	Regimental particulars	Means of Identification	Were any effects forwarded to Base?
9	D	3	57c.V.6.b.3.6.	No	UNKNOWN ENGLISH OFFICER.	Clothes.	No.
		4	do	"	552588. IVEY W.W. R.E.	Disc (Green)	"
		5	do	"	UNKNOWN 2/Lt. Civil Service Rifles.	Star, clothes & Numerals.	"
		6	do	"	WILLIAMS, J.F. LIA. R.E.	Disc & Numerals.	"
		7	do	"	5543 Sgt. P. WENTWORTH, R.E. 2/1/18.	Clothes.	" 554999/157
		8	do	"	UNKNOWN ENGLISH SOLDIER.	Numerals.	" 554999/157
		9	do	"	552114 Don E. C. 2/1/18.	Disc (Green)	" 554999/157
		10	do	"	551691 Pte. P.J. ELIOTT, 15/1/18. (Buried near this spot)	Numerals.	" 554999/157
10	D	3	do	"	PTE. MILLINGTON. 18/London Regt.	Disc (Green)	"
		4	do	"	Sgt. W.F. QUERENDEN. 18/London Regt.	Numerals.	" 554999/157
		5	do	"	UNKNOWN ENGLISH SOLDIER.	Disc (Green)	"
		6	do	"	552584 Pte. W. H. THOMAS, 25/1/18.	Numerals.	" 554999/157
		7	do	"	Civil Service Rifles.	Disc (Green)	"
		8	do	"	552674. PTE. WILLIAM, R.E.	Numerals.	"
		9	do	"	18/London Regt.	Disc (Green)	"
		10	do	"	552674. Pte. W.F. THOMAS, 16/1/18.	Numerals.	"
		11	do	"	Civil Service Rifles.	Disc (Green)	"
		12	do	"	556611. PTE. JENNY S.H.	Numerals.	"
		13	do	"	18/London Regt.	Disc (Green)	"
		14	do	"	552684. PTE. A. TAYLOR.	Marked on Shirt.	"
		15	do	"	Civil Service Rifles.	signed. E.E. WALLACE Lt. for Capt. G.C. Alick.	"

This form to be made out in triplicate, two copies being handed to the D.A.D. (C. of G.) and the other retained by the Burial Officer.

914 W.W. 1110 (1.7.55) 250/2009. 914 R.O.P. 64.

ATTACHMENT #3

Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Comprehensive Report (A) of Headstone Inscriptions.
<http://archive.cloud.cwgc.org/archive/doc/doc2068287.JPG>

No. of Contract _____ dated _____
 Name and Address of Firm. _____

Imperial War Graves Commission.

Schedule "A" Page 4

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT (A) OF HEADSTONE INSCRIPTIONS
 to this report is attached
COMPREHENSIVE REPORT (B) HEADSTONE TEXTS
 (those headstones to be inscribed with texts are underlined)
 and
TWO STANDARD LAYOUTS (the layouts to be used are quoted on the badge design).

Name of Cemetery. ASSEVILLERS N.B.C. "B"
 To be stencilled on foot of headstones below ground level abbreviated thus:—
ASSEV. N.B.C.

Badge Design No. and Layout No.	1st Line. Number and Rank.	2nd Line. Initials, NAME and Honours.	3rd Line. Regiment.	4th Line. Date of Death. <small>In any instance where the entry "NONE" appears in Col. 6, the Age will be omitted from the Headstone and the Date of Death entered laterally.</small>	Age.	Centre of Stone. Relig. Emb.	To be stencilled on foot of Headstone below ground level. Plot P. Row R. Grave G. P.R.G.	No. of Stone.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1084/1G	A SOLDIER	OF THE GREAT WAR	21 HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT		36	CROSS	9 C 5	546
LAYOUT 1H	A SOLDIER	OF THE GREAT WAR	21		15	CROSS	9 C 6	547
LAYOUT 1H	A SOLDIER	OF THE GREAT WAR	21		15	CROSS	9 C 7	549
LAYOUT 1H	A SOLDIER	OF THE GREAT WAR	21		15	CROSS	9 C 8	548
1200/1G	653 PRIVATE	J. SHADE	6 AUSTRALIAN MACHINE GUN CORPS	20TH AUGUST 1918	AGE 36	CROSS	9 C 9	530
1200/1A	3974 PRIVATE	W.J. WORTHINGTON	10TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.	25TH AUGUST 1918	AGE 24	CROSS	9 C 10	551
1242/1A	535213 PRIVATE	O.F. PILKINGTON	P.W.O. CIVIL SERVICE RIFLES	23RD MARCH 1918	AGE 19	CROSS	9 D 1	552
1242/18CC/C	531691 PRIVATE	P.J. ELLIOTT	9 (FOR PARTICULARS OF LAYOUT IN SC. ETC. SEE SCHED. SC.)				9 D 2	553
1190/18CC/C	552114 DRIVER	E. COBBY	6 (FOR PARTICULARS OF LAYOUT IN SC. ETC. SEE SCHED. SC.)				9 D 3	554
1190/18CC/B	58443 SAPPER	J. WENTWORTH	10 (FOR PARTICULARS OF LAYOUT IN SC. ETC. SEE SCHED. SC.)				9 D 4	555
1190/1D	556040 LANCE CPL. 52255 SAPPER	W.J. COOMES J.E. WILLIAMS	ROYAL ENGINEERS	23RD MARCH 1918 31ST JULY 1917	AGE 23	CROSS	9 D 5	556
1242/1G	A SOLDIER A SECOND LIEUTENANT	OF THE GREAT WAR	21 UNKNOWN SECOND LIEUTENANT P.W.O. CIVIL SERVICE RIFLES		39	CROSS	9 D 6	557
1190/1C	552588 SAPPER LANCE CPL.	W.W. IVEY	6 ROYAL ENGINEERS	22ND MARCH 1918	AGE 26	CROSS	9 D 7	558
LAYOUT 1H	A SOLDIER UNKNOWN OFFICER	OF THE GREAT WAR	21 UNKNOWN OFFICER		28	CROSS	9 D 8	559
LAYOUT 1H	A SOLDIER	OF THE GREAT WAR	21		15	CROSS	9 D 9	560

209
206
915

† A special LAYOUT is provided for use with this Headstone

378
264
622* These headstones are not to be executed until further orders.
1443
2065

§ Headstone for this grave is not included in the Contract.

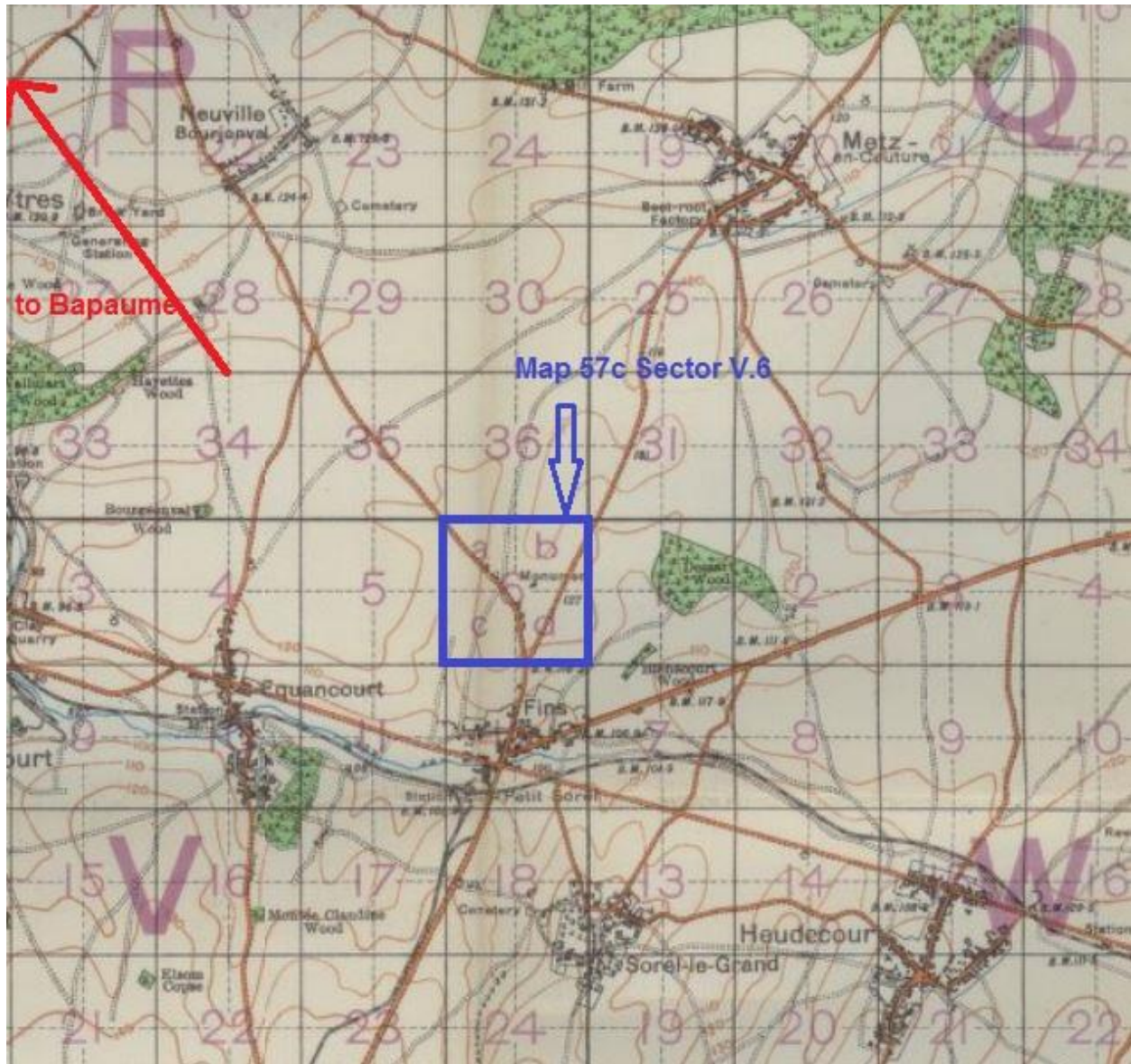
Stone No. 556 To X GROUP 79

Proof Checked.
 Final Check No. 1.
 Office Copy Prepared.
 Final Check No. 2.

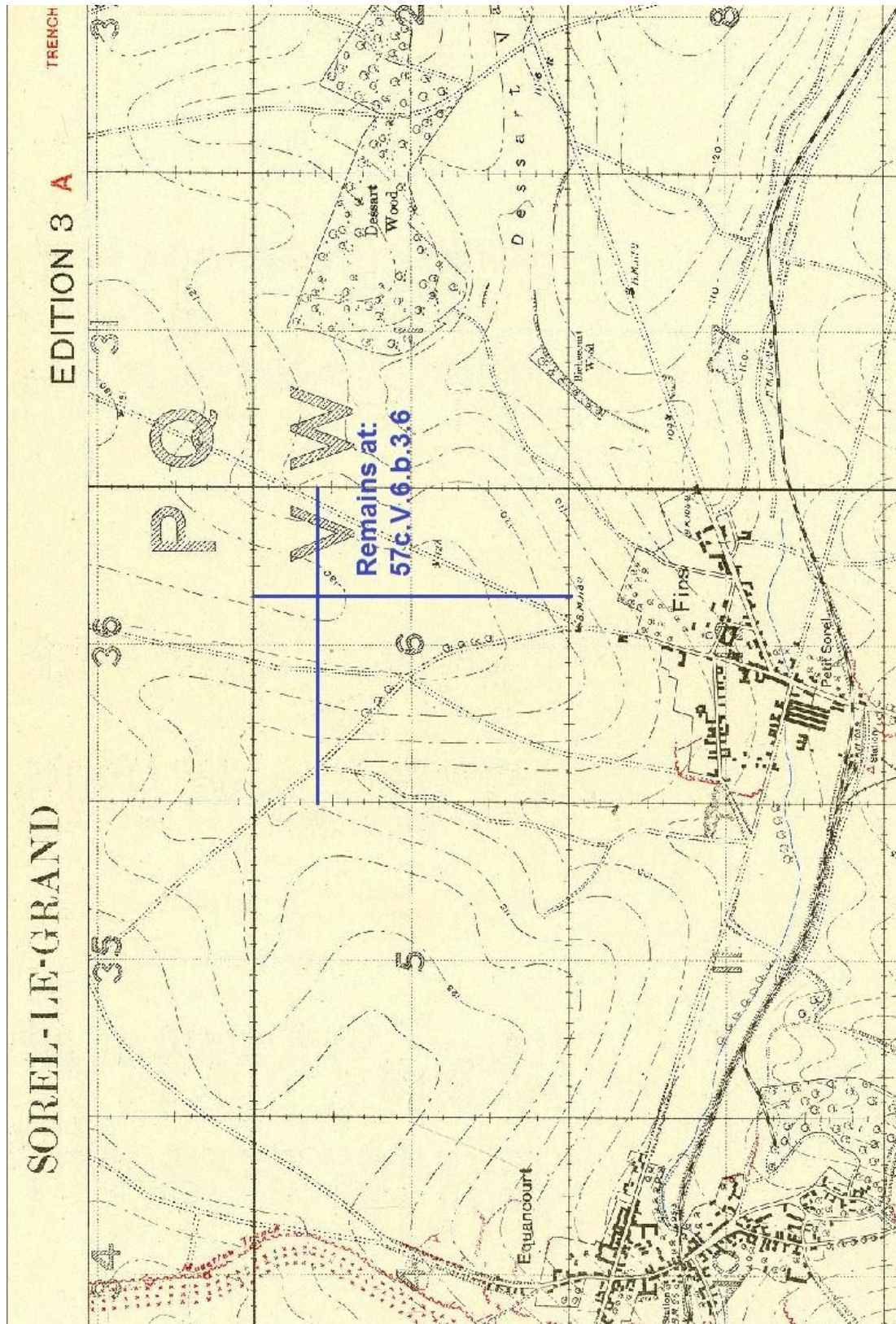
1000 W1 14000 10704 100 000 10704 146 FAS
 101 10000 10704 100 000 10704 146 FAS

ATTACHMENT #4

Lloyd Reeds Map Collection of McMaster University, Hamilton Ontario Canada. Bapaume Map
389WW1MAP. <http://digitalarchive.mcmaster.ca/islandora/object/macrepo%3A4201>



The National Archives British Trench Map Atlas.57cSE3 Sorel-le-Grand Edition 3A May 1917 Trenches Corrected 11/02/1917. Naval and Military Press, Uckfield, West Sussex, United Kingdom.



ATTACHMENT #6

Commonwealth War Graves Commission. *Casualty Record: Commonwealth Forces*
<http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead.aspx?cpage=1>

Note:

1. The list of men taken from the CWGC web site was then restricted to those that were on the memorials for the unknown.
2. The location of the regiment was then determined and the general area and research notes were added.
3. Note that the four (4) 2nd Lieutenants lost in May 1917 and named on the Arras Memorial, were not serving with the "1/15th" at the time of their demise. Smith was attached to the "2/2nd (City of London) Battalion (Royal Fusiliers)", The London Regiment". Clarke, Coldicott and Jamieson were attached to the "2nd/6th Bn. London Regiment (City of London Rifles)" and were in France, thus properly named on the Arras Memorial.

surname	forename	death	memorial	general area	research notes
WARE	BERTRAM KNIGHT	19-09-16	THIEPVAL MEMORIAL	57c.M.29	Drop Alley in the High Wood Area
SMITH	REGINALD FREDERICK	14-05-17	ARRAS MEMORIAL	57c.G.17	Bihucourt, north west of Bapaume; attached 2/6th (City of London) Battalion (Rifles)
CLARKE	RUSSELL FRANK	21-05-17	ARRAS MEMORIAL	57c.G.17	Bihucourt, north west of Bapaume; attached 2/6th (City of London) Battalion (Rifles)
COLDICOTT	HUBERT ERIC	21-05-17	ARRAS MEMORIAL	57c.G.17	Bihucourt, north west of Bapaume; attached 2/6th (City of London) Battalion (Rifles)
JAMIESON	COLIN MILLER	21-05-17	ARRAS MEMORIAL	57c.G.17	Bihucourt, north west of Bapaume; attached 2/6th (City of London) Battalion (Rifles)
MARCHANT	CHARLES VICTOR	30-11-17	CAMBRAI MEMORIAL, LOUVERVAL	57c.E.12-57c.F.14	Bourlon Wood area fighting German counterattacks
TATUM	GEORGE EDWARD	30-11-17	CAMBRAI MEMORIAL, LOUVERVAL	57c.E.12-57c.F.14	Bourlon Wood area fighting German counterattacks
AYLMORE	ALICK GUYER AYLME	23-03-18	ARRAS MEMORIAL	57c.V.6.	German Operation Michael, Spring of 1918 - with many men of unit
HUGHES	ROBERT CHARLES	17-08-18	VIS-EN-ARTOIS MEMORIAL	62d.K.12, 18, 23b, 24	Bois des Tailles area north of Bray to the southwest near Metz
GARRETT	MAURICE HUMPHRIS	02-09-18	VIS-EN-ARTOIS MEMORIAL	62c.C.3	In the area of Rancourt, St Pierre Vaast Wood to the south near Peronne

Reginald Smith
 Russell Clarke
 Hubert Coldicott
 Colin Jamieson
 57c.G.17

Bertam Ware
 57c.M.29.d.05.90

Robert Hughes
 62d.K.12, 18, 23b, 24

Maurice Garrett
 62c.C.3.b.5.2



George Tatum
 Charles Marchant
 57c.E.12 area

Remains at
 57c.V.6.b.3.6
 Alick Aylmore

Ten (10) other men of the regiment
 are buried in the Assewillers New
 British Cemetery, all KIA at the same
 time as 2nd. Lt. Aylmore (22-23
 March 1918).

ATTACHMENT #6a

War Diary of the 1/15th Battalion London Regiment for September 1916. The [National Archives](#) reference WO 95/2732/1 (page 4 of 5).

4

Army Form C. 2118.

WAR DIARY
OF
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Brass binding not required.)

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs. Part II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.

Summary of Events and Information

Remarks and references to Appendices

Map showing site of operations agreed

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and references to Appendices
HIGH WOOD	19.9.16		COUGH DROP heavily shelled. Consolidation proceeded. 2/Lt E. L. Townsend died of wound. 110	
	19.9.16		6th, 5th and 15th London Regiments attacked FLENS LINE between DROP ALLEY and GOOSE ALLEY (left of New Zealand Division). At same time 15th London Regiment occupied DROP ALLEY and established block at its junction with FLENS LINE. ZERO	
			5.30 a.m. Attack successful but owing to loss of direction, troops in FLENS LINE and DROP ALLEY did not quite join up. Several unsuccessful attempts made during day to link up.	
			12 noon 6th, 5th & 15th London Regts relieved by 8th OTAGO BATTN. N.Z. Division & moved back to DROP ALLEY and STAFFISH.	
			6.0 pm Continued bombing attack by New Zealanders along FLENS LINE and 15th London Regt. up DROP ALLEY failed. Night fairly quiet.	
	19.9.16	6.00 a.m.	Enemy bombed down DROP ALLEY but was easily driven back.	
		7.0 pm	Enemy again bombed down DROP ALLEY, and owing to state of exhaustion of troops, it was not possible again to dislodge him.	
			Relieved by 1st Bn. Black Watch & moved back to BOTTOM WOOD near MAMETZ WOOD.	
	20.9.16	3.00 a.m.	Total Casualties 15th to 20th: Officers 15 O.R.'s 365 Killed, Wounded and Missing	

1577 Wk. W 95941773 500/000 1/15 D.D. & L. ADSS/Form C. 2118.

ATTACHMENT #6b

War Diary of the 58 Division, Headquarters Branches and Services Adjutant Quartermaster General :
10th January 1917 to 30th April 1919 . The [National Archives](#) reference WO95/2992/2.

WAR DIARY		Army Form C. 2118.																																																															
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. Page 5.																																																																	
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information																																																														
In the Field	May 18th		<p>173rd Inf. Bde. in the line) BULLEBOUNT sector 174th Inf. Bde. in the line) 175th Inf. Bde. in reserve at BIHUCOURT. The command of the front passed to the G.O.C. 58th Division at 10 a.m. on this day. Divisional Advanced Headquarters established at MONY at 10 a.m. Rear Headquarters remained at BIHUCOURT.</p> <p>Casualties Noon 18th to Noon 19th:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2">Killed</th> <th colspan="2">Wounded</th> <th colspan="2">Missing</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Off.</th> <th>O.R.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>O.R.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>O.R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2/1st Ldn.</td> <td>-</td> <td>9</td> <td>4</td> <td>56</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/2nd Ldn.</td> <td>1</td> <td>17</td> <td>5</td> <td>75</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/3rd Ldn.</td> <td>1</td> <td>23</td> <td>1</td> <td>51</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/4th Ldn.</td> <td>1</td> <td>47</td> <td>2</td> <td>111</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>206 M.G. Coy.</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>28</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/9th Ldn.</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Signal Coy.</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2/Lt. C.L. JEFFERSON, 2/Lt. W. HUDSON, Capt. HUGHES, RAMO, 2/Lt. F.G. TOLLWORTHY. 2/Lt. R.F. SMITH, 2/Lt. F.J.D. GOODWIN, 2/Lt. L. BERTON, 2/Lt. H.E.V. WILLIAMS, 2/Lt. H.K. MACINTOSH, Lt. H.W.J. SHELL. 2/Lt. H.W. HALL, Capt. G. THOMPSON, RAMO 2/Lt. T. STOLING, Capt. G.R.A. LEAKE, 2/Lt. R.C. PRATT Capt. J.C. MURLEY, Lt. H.S. PRIESTLEY, 2/Lt. P. RICHARDS, 2/Lt. C.W. GILMOUR</p>		Killed		Wounded		Missing		Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	2/1st Ldn.	-	9	4	56	-	7	2/2nd Ldn.	1	17	5	75	-	-	2/3rd Ldn.	1	23	1	51	-	3	2/4th Ldn.	1	47	2	111	-	3	206 M.G. Coy.	-	-	4	28	-	-	2/9th Ldn.	-	2	-	7	-	-	Signal Coy.	-	-	-	1	-	-
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	21st		<p>2/4th Londons, 2/3rd Londons, 206 M.G. Coy. and 173rd T.M. Bty. moved to camp N. of BIHUCOURT. H.Q. and remaining Battalions of the 175th Bde. moved to camp N. of BIHUCOURT. 174th and 175th Inf. Bdes. in the front line system.</p> <p>Casualties Noon 20th to Noon 21st:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2">Killed</th> <th colspan="2">Wounded</th> <th colspan="2">Missing</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Off.</th> <th>O.R.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>O.R.</th> <th>Off.</th> <th>O.R.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2/1st Londons</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>-</td> <td>10</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/2nd do</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/3rd do</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>7</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/2nd Field Amb.</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/9th Londons</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/11th do</td> <td>-</td> <td>3</td> <td>-</td> <td>19</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/12th do</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>10</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>215 M.G. Coy.</td> <td>1</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/7th Londons</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>1</td> <td>7</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>198 M.G. Coy.</td> <td>-</td> <td>4</td> <td>-</td> <td>2</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2/8th Londons</td> <td>1</td> <td>17</td> <td>4</td> <td>52</td> <td>7</td> <td>111</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Lieut. C.R. WRIGHT 2/Lt. H. LAZENBY Major R.H. Collins - KILLED Lt. C.A. HALL, 2/Lt. F. PICKUP, 2/Lt. H.E. SMITH, 2/Lt. F.D. WILSON wounded. 2/Lt. R.F. CLARKE, Capt. W.J. HARTLEY, 2/Lt. C.M. JAMIESON, Lieut. F.F. KELLER, 2/Lt. H.W. GOLDCOTT, 2/Lt. G.A.M.T. JOHNSON, 2/Lt. E.O. COZENS - missing.</p>		Killed		Wounded		Missing		Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	Off.	O.R.	2/1st Londons	-	7	-	10	-	-	2/2nd do	-	1	-	1	-	-	2/3rd do	-	-	-	7	-	-	2/2nd Field Amb.	-	-	-	1	-	-	2/9th Londons	-	-	-	1	-	-	2/11th do	-	3	-	19	-	-	2/12th do	-	-	-	10	-	-	215 M.G. Coy.	1	-	-	-	-	-	2/7th Londons	-	-	1	7	-	-	198 M.G. Coy.	-	4	-	2	-	-	2/8th Londons	1	17	4	52	7	111
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ATTACHMENT #6c

The Cambrai operations, 1917 (Battle of Cambrai) Extract from [The Long, Long Trail](#):
(Copyright Milverton Associates Limited).

20 November – 30 December 1917: *the Cambrai operations. A British attack, originally conceived as a very large scale raid, that employed new artillery techniques and massed tanks. Initially very successful with large gains of ground being made, but German reserves brought the advance to a halt. Ten days later, a counter-attack regained much of the ground. Ultimately a disappointing and costly outcome, but Cambrai is now seen by historians as the blueprint for the successful “Hundred Days” offensives of 1918.*

The German plan was simply to cut off the neck of the salient by attacking on each side, with the strongest blow to come on the southern side. The blow fell at 7.30am on the 30th November, and was devastatingly fast and effective. By 9am, the Germans had penetrated almost 3 miles towards Havrincourt Wood. Byng's Third Army faced disaster, with the real prospect of several divisions being cut off in the trap. The first attack fell on the 55th (West Lancashire) and 12th (Eastern) Division on the south-eastern side of the salient. The Germans climbed the slope to re-take Lateau Wood, pushed up the complex of shallow ravines south of Banteux, moved through Villers Guislain and past Gouzeaucourt. Amongst the troops defending the artillery positions at Gouzeaucourt were the 11th United States Engineer Company. The direction of the assault was across British divisional boundaries, and the command structure rapidly broke down as the troops became mixed up.

Three German divisions attacked to the north, supported by an intense Phosgene barrage, intending to cut the Bapaume-Cambrai road near Anneux Chapel. They were repulsed by the machine gun barrage of the **47th (London)**, 2nd and 56th (London) Divisions, who had relieved the 36th and 40th. No Germans reached the road. Fierce fighting continued in the southern area for Gonnelieu, Les Rues Vertes and Masnieres.

ATTACHMENT #6d

War Diary of the 1/15th Battalion London Regiment for August 1918. The [National Archives](#) reference WO 95/2732/1 (page 3 of 4).

WAR DIARY
or
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY.
(Brevit heading not required.)

Army Form C. 2118.

Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information (Brevit heading not required.)	Remarks and References to Appendices
in Support	9-8-18	7-10	M.O. in place of L.A. KNOX who went on leave.	
	10-8-18		The day was spent in clearing. Several working parties were provided with a draft of an O.R. from the 12 O.R. from B.	
	11-8-18		The position was relieved by the 10 th Royal Tank Brigade and moved back into battle in BAZILION.	
	12-8-18		A working party was received from Brigade that the B th was probably more at night than day. The O.O. and a draft of the 12 O.R. from B.	
	13-8-18		The position was relieved by the 10 th Royal Tank Brigade and moved back into battle in BAZILION.	
	14-8-18		The position was relieved by the 10 th Royal Tank Brigade and moved back into battle in BAZILION.	
	15-8-18		The position was relieved by the 10 th Royal Tank Brigade and moved back into battle in BAZILION.	
	16-8-18		The position was relieved by the 10 th Royal Tank Brigade and moved back into battle in BAZILION.	
	17-8-18		The position was relieved by the 10 th Royal Tank Brigade and moved back into battle in BAZILION.	
	18-8-18		The position was relieved by the 10 th Royal Tank Brigade and moved back into battle in BAZILION.	

ATTACHMENT #6d

War Diary of the 1/15th Battalion London Regiment for August 1918. The [National Archives](#) reference WO 95/2732/1 (extracts of pages 1 and 3).

At about 11.30.p.m. the Battn² was relieved by the London Irish (18th. London Regt.) and marched to a position of assembly on the RANCOURT - PERONNE road, just S.W. of BOUCHAVESNES, and 300 yds. N. of the old Quarry (C.20.central).

The plan was that the 74th. Division should attack from Trenches immediately S. of the 141st. Infantry Bde. boundary (C.10.c.7.9.), their final objective being NURLU. The 74th. Division was also to be responsible for the capture and "mopping up" of MOISLAINS. The 140 Infantry Bde. was to follow them closely, the 1/15th. Battn² on the left, the 1/17th. Battn. on the right and the 1/21st Battn. in support. After crossing the CANAL du NORD (E. of MOISLAINS) the 140 Infantry Bde. was to wheel left, forming a defensive flank on the high ground to the N. of MONASTIR trench, where they were to join up with the 142 Infantry Bde. who were to capture this trench. Order from left to right on defensive flank;- 21st. London, 1/Civil Service Rifles, 17th. London. The 140th. Infantry Bde. was to follow the 229 Infantry Bde., who would also prolong the defensive flank, facing N. as far as NURLU.

The only dead of the 74th. Division whom I personally saw in the section of ground with which my Battn. was concerned, were lying about 300 yds. from our starting point, - the RANCOURT-PERONNE road. Since these dead were not there when we originally advanced, I can only come to the conclusion, which is shared by all who were with me on the battlefield during the action and after, **that** here, at least, the 140th. Infantry Bde., instead of being in support, found itself with its flanks unsecured, and with the barrage so far ahead as to be useless, carrying out the main attack on a strong enemy position, and that the 74th. Division, so far from being in front of us, was behind us.

ATTACHMENT #7

War Diary of the 1/15 London Regiment, Civil Service Rifles. March 1918. The [National Archives](https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/) reference WO 95/2732/1.

WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. (Erase heading not required.)		Summary of Events and Information	Remarks and References to Appendix
Place	Date	Hour	
		6 pm	
<p>Right Company (D) C.S.R. had apparently been surrounded by the enemy was now extricated. The reason for this was the fact that the company's right flank was completely enfiladed from the time the position was reached.</p> <p>Bn. H.H. (less H.H. company) was in 3rd position till 4.0 pm. subsequently at ROCQUIGNY</p> <p>A party of about 50 C.S.R. was collected by C.O. & placed in position on the left in P. 31 & 32. Most of FOUR WINDS FARM, from which position they were forced back at dusk.</p> <p>By this time the movement of C.S.R. were split up into a many batties whose movements are too complicated to follow.</p> <p>Casualties 2 D.C. K.I.A. 71 D.C. wounded 210 D.C. missing</p> <p>Major E.J. WOODLEY, M.C. } Wounded. Capt M. McDONALD, M.C. } Lt. T. WOODS } 2 Lt. L.W. PICKARD } W.L. IVEY } E.J.V. CAVEY } C.A. WILMOTT }</p> <p>Capt F.D. BALFOUR, M.C. } Missing. R. MIDDLETON, M.C. } Lt. W.V.M. BROAD } 2 Lt. H. MATHESON } A.G.A. AYLMORE } F.A. BRIGHT }</p>			

A9514-W1 W492/M657 7/30/000 8/16 D.D. & L.L. Ltd. Form C. 311/13

ATTACHMENT #8a

Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Graves Registration Report Form.

<http://archive.cloud.cwgc.org/archive/doc/doc2019517.JPG>

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.

11/32581073
Army Form W. 8372.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

Commune: **LE CATEAU** REPORT No. **7.** SCHEDULE No. **12/c Revised**

PLACE OF BURIAL **LE CATEAU ~~GERMAN~~ MILITARY CEMETERY.**

Map Reference **57b.K.33.a.8.9.** Certified complete and correct.

The following are buried here:—

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave L. to R.
PLOT 3, ROW 'B', OFFICERS PLOT.						
Q. V. R. 11/Bty.152/Bde.) R.F.A.) R.F. Artillery		FLEETWOOD ✓	Lieut.	12-7-16		3✓
		COGHLAN ✓ (believed to be)	2/Lt.W.H.	26-8-14		4✓
		BROWNING ✓	Capt.C.H.	26-8-14	SSP/4994/373	5✓
PLOT 3, ROW 'C', OFFICERS PLOT.						
2/A. & S.H. do 2/Suffolk Regt. 2/A. & S.H. do		KENNEDY ✓	Capt.A.E.	26-8-14		1✓
		BRUCE ✓	Capt.Hon.R.	"		2✓
		UNKNOWN PAYNE ✓	Lieut.G.H.	26-8-14	X/1073	3✓
		MacLEAN ✓	Lt.A.K.	26-8-14		4✓
		MacLEAN ✓	Major A.H.	"		5✓
PLOT 3, ROW 'D', OFFICERS PLOT.						
2/5 East Lancs. 13/att,15/Londons 18/Londons 'D' Co. 5/Res.Lancs.Fus. 7/Leicesters 'D' Co.		OSBORNE ✓ (Edward Bertram)	2/Lieut	1-4-18		1✓
		MATHESON ✓	2/Lt.H.	24-3-18		2✓
		PARKES ✓	Lt.Percy			3✓
		ROSS ✓	Lt.Harold			4✓
		FIELD ✓	Lt.A.M.	22-3-18		5✓
PLOT 3, ROW 'E', OFFICERS PLOT.						
8/Leicesters R. N. 59/ M.G.C. 1/92 Bde.R.P.A. 2/7 Sherwoods		SMITH ✓	Lt.W.G.			1✓
		PATTISSON ✓ (D.S.C.)	Observer	17-3-18		2✓
		HOWARTH ✓	Lt.J.H.	6-12-17		3✓
		PATTERSON ✓	Lt.H.Scott	7-12-17		4✓
		GASCOYNE ✓	Capt.Charles	11-5-17		5✓

Card made Browning
(6 31 5) W2709—P3788 15.000 12/20 HWV(P3788) Form W3372/4
ENTERED 12/22 Card made PAYNE
SLIP CHECKED 12/22 11.7.28

ATTACHMENT #8b

The Archives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC): Prisoners of the First World War.
<https://grandequerre.icrc.org/>

U B R I ⑨

F.S.D. A/35197

BRIGHT Fred Arthur

1/Lt. London Rgt.

Rep Mrs. Bright. 95 Lancaster Rd., Forest Gate, London

29.5.18. Tel. London. "Prisoner Hannover slightly wounded doing well"

PA 26.217.14.6.18. Reply fr. Kasper to Lahr (has comm)

18.7.18. Tel. Lahr: Wire transmitted to FA Bright".

9.7.18. Tel. London: Wire transmitted to Family."

24.7.18. Tel. Lahr: "Wire from Davies, Manor Park, London transmitted".

FIGURE V 12 11

1	2	3	4	5	6
Ep. Nr.	a) Familienname b) Vorname (nur der Rufname) c) nur bei Russen Vorname des Vaters	Dienst- grad	a) Trossen- b) ist c) Komp.	a) Gefangennahme (Ort und Tag) b) c) vorhergehender Auf- enthaltort	a) Geburtsort und -Ort b) Adresse des nächsten c) Verwandten
76.	Birchensongh John	2 nd Manchester Lieut. Rgt.	16.th. 21.3.1918 Rastatt	St. Quentin 21.3.1918 Rastatt	1.7.94 Seaford Mrs. Birchensongh 16 Albion Street Brook Park Manchester
77.	Bradbury Alfred	2 nd Kings Lieut. Rgt.	19.th. 22.3.1918 Rastatt	St. Quentin 22.3.1918 Rastatt	1.8.91 Worsley Mrs. Bradbury 18 Albion St. Brook Park Manchester.
78.	Brigham William	2 nd Fusiliers Lieut. Rgt.	North- barland 16.4.1918 Rastatt	Wytham 16.4.1918 Rastatt	28.11.87 Tensick Mrs. Brigham 9 Warkworth Terrace Berwick-on-Tweed.
79.	Bright Frederick	2 nd Lieut.	London Capt. 6.8.18	Wine 23.7.1918 Rastatt	25.8.89 Brockley Mrs. Bright 95 Lancaster Road Forest Gate London E.7.

ATTACHMENT #9

Commonwealth War Graves Commission. *Casualty Record: Commonwealth Forces*
<http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead.aspx?cpage=1>

Note:

1. There are another ten (10) men of the regiment buried in the Assevillers New British Cemetery.
2. Three (3) of the men are buried in the same Plot and Row as the Unknown 2nd Lieutenant.
3. It is quite possible that the UNKNOWN BRITISH OFFICER buried in Plot 9 Row D Grave 8 is [Lt. Walter Victor Mantach Broad](#) of the Civil Service Rifles. He is the only other unknown officer of the regiment lost at that time and at that location. As there is no unit affiliation, the case was not pursued at this time. There are 11 other Lieutenants on the Arras Memorial for 23 March 1918.

surname	initials	death	rank	regiment	#	grave
BELLINGHAM, M.M.	F S	22-03-18	Corporal	15th Bn.	'530889'	IX. D. 10.
ELLIOTT	P J	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'531691'	IX. D. 2.
FYFE	J C	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'535123'	VII. G. 6.
JEFFERY	W E	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'533567'	XII. G. 5.
JENVEY	S H	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'536611'	X. D. 2.
NEVES	W H	23-03-18	Private	"D" Coy.	'535234'	X. D. 5.
PILKINGTON	O F	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'535213'	IX. D. 1.
REDCLIFFE	F R	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'535405'	VII. G. 7.
SMITH	E W	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'535206'	X. D. 3.
WILLIAMS	H E	23-03-18	Private	15th Bn.	'532674'	X. D. 4.

ATTACHMENT #10

This “*Reporting and Review*” attachment is provided to assist all parties in the submission of an investigative report related to the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Commonwealth Forces during the Great War 1914-1921. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) receives a copy of this report in the event they wish to make changes to the commemoration details. In order to alter the records, the CWGC has set out their criteria for the procedure and submission of cases for review, as detailed below. The CWGC is under no obligation to make changes based on a report.

This process differs from cases related to members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) as these do not go first to the CWGC Canadian Agency in Ottawa. We have modified the requirement information noted below to include CWGC criteria from their source material:

Guideline Criteria for Submission:	Evidence and Source Material:
Cases need to present clear and convincing evidence to prove the identity of a casualty and must not be based on assumption or speculation. The Commission's Commemoration Team will also consider whether the findings of a better informed contemporary investigation are being revisited and if there is any new evidence to consider. By way of example, it is unlikely that the Commission would support a revision of the arrangements for the commemoration where it is apparent that no new evidence is being presented and, a better informed previous decision is being revisited some 100 years later.	Un-cited resources cannot be accepted as official evidence. Research conducted on the internet will only be accepted if supplied by a recognised authority such as the CWGC, National Archives etc. Any primary (contemporary) sources <i>e.g. the National Archives, CWGC, and Genealogical website original documentation etc.</i> must be copied and submitted with the case. The relevant pages of any secondary material <i>e.g. published reference books and articles; website material etc.</i> should also be copied and submitted. All sources must be correctly referenced as footnotes throughout the submission as well as cited in a complete bibliography of consulted sources. Referencing is essential to any historical research and should contain some uniform elements.

The following have participated in the preparation, review and submission of this report on a voluntary basis. Those noted below have read the investigative report and compared it to the criteria set out by the CWGC, as a guiding principle, and have agreed to have their name included as part of the review team. The CWGC may contact any of the reviewers at the e-mail address provided below.

Name	Affiliation	E-mail	Contribution
Richard Laughton Canada	Private Researcher LMC Great War Research Company	rlaughton@laughton.ca	Investigator & Report Author
Alan Gregson, Jnr.	Private Researcher Stoak Village, Cheshire, UK	thetrench22@gmail.com	Report Investigator
Timothy McTague	Private Researcher Rhode Island USA	timmct@verizon.net	Report Reviewer